1

2

1

2

1

2

3

What is claimed is:

1	1.	A method, comprising the steps of:
2		receiving, with a client, data from a network in a distributed system;
3		specifying with said client a minimum length of time during which the received
4	data is	s to be temporarily stored; and
5		storing temporarily at least a portion of the received data.

- 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the received data is stored in a memory space accessible by the client as cache.
 - 3. A method according to claim 2, wherein said received data is stored in a non-volatile memory.
- 1 4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the receiving step is via the Internet.
- 1 5. A method according to claim 1, wherein the receiving step comprises retrieving data of a Web page.
- 1 6. A method according to claim 1, wherein the temporarily stored data comprises 2 data in text, graphics, sound, video, or applet format.
 - 7. A method according to claim 1, further including the step of designating, with said client, that the received data be temporarily stored, wherein the designating step includes a step of presenting a user with a window for user input.

1	8.	A method according to claim 7, wherein the specifying step is carried out by a
2	user in	real time.

- 9. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of reading an instruction provided with the received data, wherein the instruction indicates that the received data should be temporarily stored.
- 1 10. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of deleting the data 2 after the specified minimum length of time.
- 1 11. A method according to claim 1, wherein the data is a first Web page containing a
 2 hyperlink to a second Web page and the storing step includes storing data of the second
 3 Web page.
- 1 12. A method, comprising the step of storing Web page data temporarily in a cache 2 for a user specified time period.
- 1 13. A method according to claim 12, wherein said data is stored to conserve cache 2 storage space and to ensure that the user may retrieve the data within the user-selected 3 time period.
- 1 14. A client, comprising:
- 2 a central processing unit;
- an input device coupled to said central processing unit;
- 4 an output device coupled to said central processing unit; and

5		a memory space operatively coupled to said central processing unit for storing	
6	data,		
7		the client being configured to temporarily store data downloaded from a network	
8	for a u	ser specified minimum period of time, after which period of time the stored data is	
9	subjec	t to automatic deletion.	
1	15.	A client according to claim 14, wherein the memory space is a cache memory	
2	space.		
1	16.	A client according to claim 14, wherein the memory space is a nonvolatile	
2	memory.		
1	17.	A client according to claim 14, wherein the client is further configured to respond	
2	to a us	er request to display information about the stored data.	
1	18.	A client according to claim 17, wherein the client is further configured to respond	
2	to a user request to modify a property of the stored data.		
1	19.	A client according to claim 14, wherein the stored data is data from one or more	
2	Web site images.		
1	20.	A system, comprising:	
2		a client configured to temporarily store data received from a server for a user-	
3	specified minimum period of time, to provide user access when said data is not available		
4	from said server,		

- 5 said client being further configured to delete said data after expiration of said
- 6 user-specified minimum period of time, to recover memory space over time.